

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to an artificial joint (1) embodied more particularly in the form of a knee joint prosthesis and a method for the production thereof. The artificial joint (1) comprises a joint plateau (3) which is provided with a recess (6) and a joint overlay (4) endowed with a projection (5), which are connected together in a non positive and positive fit on a contact area. The projection (5) has an overdimension in relation to the recess (6). Said overdimension is reduced by cooling the projection (5) thereby enables mounting to be simplified. During subsequent equalisation of temperature, thermal expansion leads to a tensing of the projection (5) in the recess (6). The contact area (9) or the overdimension (7) has, according to location, different dimensions such that securing forces acting upon the projection (5) produces a state of stress in the joint overlay (4) at body temperature of the patient, whereby said state of stress increases the load-bearing capacity of the joint (1).